



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#11/B
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Applicants: Oliver P. Peoples, Lara L. Madison and Gjalt W. Huisman

Serial No.: 09/364,847

Group Art Unit: 1652

Filed: July 30, 1999

Examiner: D. Steadman

For: *ENZYMES FOR BIOPOLYMER PRODUCTION*

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 29, 2000, please amend the claims and consider the remarks as follows.

In the claims

B₁
sub
C'

1. (Twice amended) A protein fusion having a formula selected from the group consisting of E1-L_n-E2 and E2-L_n-E1, wherein E1 and E2 catalyze successive reactions in a [PHA] polyhydroxyalkanoate biosynthetic pathway and are each selected from the group consisting of β -ketothiolases, acyl-CoA reductases, [PHA] polyhydroxyalkanoate synthases, [PHB] poly(3-hydroxybutyrate) synthases, phasins, enoyl-CoA hydratases, and beta-hydroxyacyl-ACP::coenzyme-A transferase, in which linker L_n is a peptide of n amino acids that link E1 to E2 or E2 to E1.